

the collegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

VOL. 119 NO. 128

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014

www.kstatecollegian.com

K-State, Manhattan area news

By KAREN SARITA INGRAM
THE COLLEGIAN

Construction to begin at two major Manhattan intersections

The City of Manhattan has announced a construction project to add new turning lanes and improve traffic flow to two major intersections beginning Monday. The construction will cause lane reductions and traffic delays until the projects are completed.

The intersection of McCall Road and Tuttle Creek Boulevard will be adding a second left-turn lane for westbound traffic. Should work will be done to add a right-turn lane.

Another project involves the entrance to the Manhattan Town Center at U.S. Highway 24 and Poyntz Avenue. Construction will be adding new double-turn lanes for southbound to eastbound traffic and two right-turn lanes for northbound traffic.

These projects are being funded by the City of Manhattan and the Kansas Department of Transportation. Both projects are expected to be completed by Aug. 1.

FEMA to host disaster preparedness event for students

Students will have the opportunity to learn about disaster preparedness at a free event next week. The ReadyCampus event will teach students about local, state and federal programs and resources available during emergencies. The event will include a walk-through of a mock Point of Distribution that delivers food, medicine and other supplies to survivors of disasters. Information about volunteer opportunities will also be available.

The event will be held in Bosco Student Plaza on April 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is made possible through a partnership between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency, K-State, the American Red Cross and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

Local animal shelter to host Easter egg hunt

The T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter, 605 Levee Dr., will be hosting a Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday, beginning at 9:30 a.m. There will also be photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny. The event is geared for children under 5 years of age and is free, but donations are welcome. All proceeds from the event benefit the shelter and the animals it houses. For more information, contact the animal shelter at 785-587-2783.

Poetry on Poyntz to take place at art gallery

The Strecker-Nelson Gallery, 406 Poyntz Ave., will be hosting Poetry on Poyntz this Friday at 7 p.m. The event allows K-State students, faculty and alumni to share original poetry and short prose with listeners. The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited.

Breezy Bomb celebrates local longboarding community

By CHARLIE KING-HAGEN
THE COLLEGIAN

K-State's Longboarding Club will be hosting its second annual Breezy Bomb event at Tuttle Creek Cove Park this Saturday at 1 p.m.

"We have a lot of expectations for longboarding in Manhattan," said Corbin Moore, junior in mechanical engineering and co-president of the Longboarding Club.

The original idea for Breezy Bomb began two years ago, during Moore's and Shane Snavely, senior in milling science and management, first year as co-presidents of the club.

"There was one day where Shane and I talked about having a downhill event out at (Tuttle Creek Cove Park)," Moore said. "It really all just fell into place."

Moore, Snavely and the rest of the Longboarding Club spent months preparing and organizing for the event. They put up fliers around the area and drew chalk advertisements across K-State's sidewalks. They also contacted Tuttle Creek Cove Park rangers, in

order to ensure that the park would be closed off and made safe for the event. The club spent a considerable amount of money in preparation for Breezy Bomb 2013, all without knowing what to expect.

"It was a far-fetched idea and we had no idea if anyone would show up," Snavely said.

In its first year, Breezy Bomb 2013 turned out to be a big success.

"We had skaters come in from six to seven different states, photographers and people lining the hills," Snavely said. "People were coming up to us all day, saying 'Thank you for doing this. You should make this an annual event.' I have never been so happy."

Breezy Bomb 2014 promises to be bigger and better than its predecessor. Having gotten started

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4, "BREEZY"

PARKER ROBB | THE COLLEGIAN
Jamie Ryan, sophomore in business, cruises down the long hill spanning down the south side of McCain Auditorium between Nichols and Thompson Halls on his longboard Wednesday.

'Hedwig and the Angry Inch' premieres at Aggie Central Station tonight



Hedwig Robinson, played by Evan Tuttle, describes her childhood experiences growing up in communist East Berlin during the Cold War Era in the rock musical "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," which will be staged at Aggie Central Station starting tonight for the next two weekends.

By JAKKI FORESTER
THE COLLEGIAN

"When I woke up from my surgery, I was bleeding," said Hedwig Robinson.

"First time as a woman, and it was already that time of the month."

This statement is just one for Evan Tuttle, Manhattan resident and executive director of the Aggieville Business Association, in his role of Robinson in the musical "Hedwig and the Angry Inch."

The musical tells the fictional story of Hansel Schmidt, who

transforms into Hedwig Robinson when an American military sergeant approaches him to get married in Communist-occupied East Berlin during the Cold War era. The only way Robinson will be able to leave East Berlin is to get married in an opposite-sex marriage.

After agreeing to a sex change surgery, it ends up being botched. Robinson's male sex organs are removed, but there is a one inch length of skin remaining from the removal of her penis, conveniently nicknamed her "angry inch."

After moving stateside, the military sergeant leaves Robinson

for another man. Robinson becomes disoriented and later falls in love with a musician named Tommy Speck, also known as Tommy Gnosis, who Robinson believes is her soulmate.

"This show is something everyone can relate to because everyone has these struggles of questioning who they are and where they belong," said Heather Branhagan-Green, director and Manhattan resident. "It asks 'who am I?' and 'why am I here?' It's about redemption; going in one side and coming out the other stronger than they entered."

Betsy Baddeley, Manhattan

resident, said she wanted to get involved because of the rock 'n' roll aspect of the show. Baddeley plays Yitzhak, a back-up singer.

"This show has a message about oppression and injustice," Baddeley said. "But rock 'n' roll is more about beauty and love. This show has such a poignant love story."

Baddeley said one of the most challenging things for her was the research and analysis that went into the characters. She said the band members in the show are all political refugees, and the band is their outlet.

"This show is also really ambiguous," Baddeley said. "How much are you going to let the audience figure out on their own compared to what is actually written."

The original writers of the production are brilliant, Tuttle said. He said all the songs performed are catchy and could be on the radio. He also added that everything has a double entendre to it, which adds humor to the show.

"It was a lot of music to memorize," said Ashalen Sims, Manhattan resident, who plays keyboard player Skszp. "I am usually a classical musician, so this was a completely different genre for me. But the music is super catchy, and each song has vital elements."

Sims said when she would go home from rehearsal, she would practice the music just for fun because it was so catchy.

Justin Trowbridge, Manhattan resident, said he has been familiar with the show since 2004 and has known the music for quite some time. He said that when he

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4,

"HEDWIG"

INSIDE

SOCIAL MEDIA

WEATHER



3 Conventional food rules of texture and taste challenged



4 The bats come alive to help K-State power past Nebraska

Question of the Day

"Do you think that the National Security Agency is overstepping their constitutional boundaries by collecting metadata?"

Look for the opinion page tomorrow to see how K-Staters responded.

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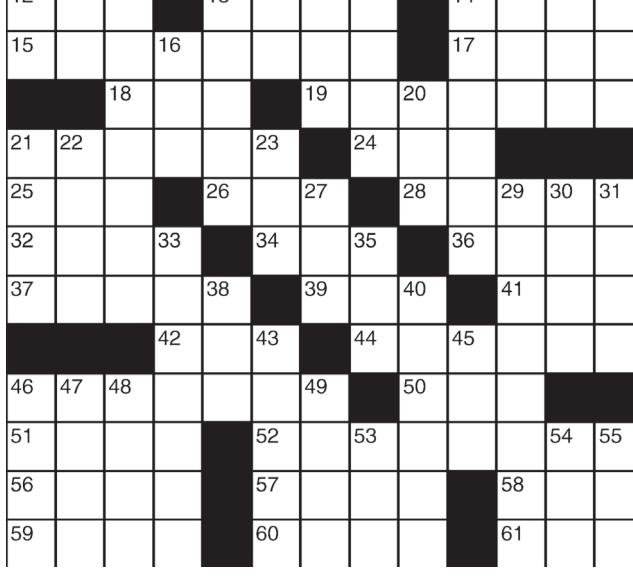
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Yesterday's answer 4-10



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The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

The age of Jeagan has begun. (fyi: that's good)

One um, two um, three um, Fourum!

What song should I sing at karaoke?

How does one stay engaged during Geology class? I'm literally studying rocks here.

To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your e-mail address or phone number is logged but not published.

K-State sends more students to KU Med than KU does. LOL.

INEQUALITY FOR ALL

This award-winning and engaging documentary **Inequality For All** explores income inequality and problems of wealth distribution in the U.S. The film follows Robert Reich, the U.S. Secretary of Labor under President Clinton, as he looks to raise awareness of the country's widening economic gap. An expert panel discussion with Jim Reed, John Exdell and Usha Reddi follows the screening.

This event is free and open to the public. Registration is requested to assist with planning.

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The Collegian welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit submitted letters for clarity, accuracy, space and relevance. A letter intended for publication should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article that appeared in the Collegian within the last 10 issues. It must include the author's first and last name, year in school and major. If you are a graduate of K-State, the letter should include your year(s) of graduation and must include the city and state where you live. For a letter to be considered, it must include a phone number where you can be contacted. The number will not be published. Letters can be sent to letters@kstatecollegian.com.

Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

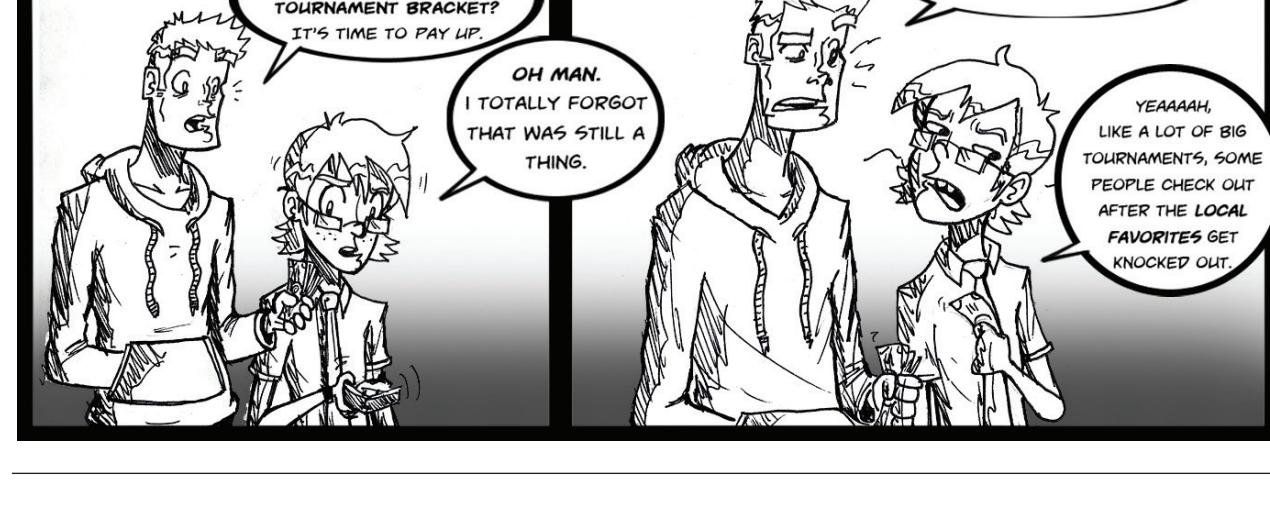
The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Jena Sauber at 785-532-6556 or email news@kstatecollegian.com.

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For the Right | By Parker Wilhelm



The Weekly Planner

Thursday, April 10

Doctoral Dissertation:
Kristen Kuhlman

368 Bluemont Hall
10 a.m.

Student Recital Series

All Faiths Chapel
11:30 a.m.

Mathematics Colloquium Lecture:

Distribution of Points on Varieties Over Finite Fields

102 Cardwell Hall
2:30 p.m.

Geoscience webinar

109 Justin Hall
4-5 p.m.

First Job 411

Room 227,
K-State Student Union
4-5 p.m.

K-State Tap Dance Ensemble Annual Showcase

Danforth and All Faiths Chapels
6 p.m.

Week of the Young Child Celebration

Beach Museum of Art
6-7:30 p.m.

K-State Computers and Technology Movie Series:

"Sunshine"

127 Nichols Hall
7 p.m.

Friday, April 11

Chester E. Peters Lecture in Student Development

Town Hall,
Leadership Studies Building
10:30 a.m. to noon

International Conservation Biologist Speaker:

Claire Kremen
103 Cardwell Hall
1:30 p.m.

Newest Research in Brain-based Learning:

Jane Fishback presenter
Hemisphere Room,
Hale Library
2-4 p.m.

Latvia Coffee Hour

International Student Center
4-5 p.m.

24th Annual Libraries Gala

Great Room,
Hale Library
6-10 p.m.

Marlatt Casino Night

Tower Building,
Jardine Apartments
7-9:30 p.m.

Student Recital Series: Honors Recital

Kirmser Hall,
McCain Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

UPC Film: "Manhattan"

Little Theatre,
K-State Student Union
8 p.m.

K-State After Hours:

Comedian Jessi Campbell
Forum Hall,
K-State Student Union
10 p.m.

THE BLOTER

ARREST REPORTS

Tuesday, April 8

Jonny Linter, 2600 block of Brookpointe Circle, was booked for domestic battery. Bond was listed at \$1,000.

Monday, April 7

Thomas Emmanuel Ortiz, 1800 block of Laramie Street, was booked for burglary of a dwelling, misdemeanor theft and criminal damage to property. Bond was listed at \$2,500.



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Some food combos prove more delectable than weird

By PATRICK WHITE
THE COLLEGIAN

It would not be much of a stretch of the imagination to assume that most people have a set of rules when it comes to their food. Aside from the way it is prepared, we follow this "unofficial rulebook" that says certain foods should not mix.

However, it appears that there are certain combinations everyone will bend the rules for. These wacky food combinations break the "unofficial rulebook" of food, but students aren't complaining.

Michael Thornwall, junior in business marketing, said that his favorite "weird" combination is mixing maple syrup in with his breakfast cereal.

"For breakfast, I like to get Cinnamon Toast Crunch, pour the milk on and then add maple syrup to the bowl," Thornwall said. "It really just boils down to my fascination with maple syrup. Nothing tastes like it. You can't compare it to anything."

The idea of milk and maple syrup may be odd, since the two don't sound like they would combine well. But, the two work already really well together on actual French toast. Thornwall's recipe essentially creates French toast in a bowl: cinnamon and sugar on the cereal mixed with milk and finished with syrup on top. The only difference between Thornwall's concoction and the real thing is that this time, it's found in the breakfast bowl instead of the frying pan.

Another spin on this idea is mixing breakfast with dinner, or more specifically, dessert.



Dipping French fries in a Wendy's Frosty is a weird food combination that many people enjoy.

TAYLOR ALDERMAN | THE COLLEGIAN

"I really like ice cream and cereal," Kelby Burton, senior in architectural engineering, said. "What I do is mix Purple Pride ice cream from Call Hall with Cap'n Crunch Berries. I've been told that doing that is weird, because it makes the ice cream chunky. It

gives it weird textures. I like it, because it's sweet and crunchy."

Texture is a peculiar problem that pops up now and again for many people. Some foods combinations have odd textures, like the usually smooth ice cream mixed with cereal, but they work. Why

else would Woody Harrelson quest across the U.S. for a Twinkie in "Zombieland?" It's because he hates the consistency of Sno Balls.

Skylar James, senior in computer engineering, said his weird food combination deals with the preparation of his pasta top-

pings.

"I think my weirdest combination is putting ranch dressing in with my spaghetti sauce," James said.

Once again, texture is a deciding factor for James.

"The dressing gives the sauce a nice creamy texture and taste," James said. "If it's a meaty sauce, then it does not work out so well. But if it's just tomato sauce, then it turns out good. It gives the sauce a good tangy taste."

Texture plays a large role in combining ability of food. Like Burton, some people enjoy adding a crunch to their ice cream. Others remain unconvinced.

"I have heard of taking your French fries and dunking them in your (Wendy's) Frosty," James said. "I don't do ice cream, so I haven't done it. But I know a lot of people that do."

Many people think dipping French fries in ice cream is odd, though many others still engage in the practice. Thornwall said the ice cream has to be the consistency of the Wendy's Frosty and not another brand of fast food ice cream or ice cream from a store.

"To a certain extent, it has to be Wendy's," Thornwall said. "It's the consistency of the Wendy's Chocolate Frosty. You get that, and it just makes the sweet and salty combo."

Burton said it also has the added appeal of alliteration.

"When I think about it, it's a Frosty and French fries," Burton said. "It's not a milkshake and fries. So, you have to go to Wendy's to get it. It's pretty good. I like the salty and sweet combination, and chocolate is always a good thing."

Adult diabetes cases skyrocket with upward trend in Kansas, rest of world

By ARIEL CROCKETT
THE COLLEGIAN

For McCord, transitioning to college while managing her diabetes wasn't that hard.

"My parents have always raised me to be independent when it comes to my diabetes," McCord said. "So it wasn't really all that difficult just because for the most part, I was already doing everything on my own."

McCord said there are times when her blood sugar spikes up or gets really low. She has to tell herself she doesn't feel good and decide what she wants to do about it.

While her type of diabetes allows her more dietary freedom than type 2 would, she still has to be aware of the food she eats, she said.

"With my diabetes, I can eat whatever I want, so finding things to eat has never been a problem," McCord said. "It's kind of the same as high school. You've just got to be aware of what you're eating."

McCord said her diabetes stems from genetics; she has an older brother who is also diabetic. She followed his footsteps to help her transition into caring for her diabetes at 10 years old.

For McCord, her hormones are one of her biggest challenges in managing her type 1 diabetes.

"The control of my diabetes has changed a lot, because hormones affect blood sugar," McCord said. "So growing up, going through puberty, it fluctuated a lot."

Diabetes types

According to Diabetes Care Services and Pharmacy, type 1 diabetes is like a "domino effect." It is insulin-dependent and stems from the body's attempt to destroy insulin-producing cells in the pancreas. As a

result, the body is unable to produce insulin, leaving glucose in the blood to damage organ systems.

Type 2 diabetes stems mostly from poor nutrition and lack of exercise; it is the most common form of diabetes.

Kenny said, "That's around 8 percent of the adult population."

Kenny said this increase could be due to a combination of factors including age, genetics, ethnicity and obesity – all of which contribute to the disease.

of their bodies.

While eating healthy and exercising may seem difficult for some students, living a healthy lifestyle is beneficial, especially in the long run, Kenny said.

"Basic healthy eating and eating three meals a day including fruits and vegetables throughout the day, staying away from concentrated sweets, and simply eating less fats and fast foods (is good)," Kenny said. "And getting at least 30 minutes of moderate activity a day can all lower your chances of getting diabetes."

According to the American Diabetes Association, the estimated total cost of diagnosed diabetes cases reached \$245 billion in 2012, rising from \$174 billion in 2007, an increase of approximately 41 percent.

Components of this estimated cost include, but aren't limited to, hospital inpatient care (43 percent of the total cost), prescription medications to treat complications of diabetes (18 percent) and anti-diabetic agents and diabetes supplies (12 percent).

Susan Reed, executive director at Flint Hills Community Clinic, has more than 30 years of experience working in healthcare, including experience working with diabetics and helping them with their lifestyle.

Reed said managing diabetes can be detrimental for their wallet.

"Probably the minimum cost for someone who is not out of control would be about \$130 to \$160 dollars a month just for the insulin," Reed said.

This is roughly the cheapest amount an uninsured diabetic would pay monthly for their insulin depending on dosage and how often they need it, she said.

Reed said it can also be harder to be social when managing diabetes because a lot of social events revolve around food.

"We go to meetings around lunches and dinners, and the holidays we eat crazy food," Reed said. "It's really hard to be social and not feel like you're depriving yourself. It's just easier to eat those things."

"As of 2010, there was approximately 179,000 adults in Kansas with diabetes. That's around 8 percent of the adult population."

JODY KENNY
PRESIDENT OF THE DIABETES ADVISORY BOARD

Kansas, national costs

"According to the (Center for Disease Control and Prevention), as of 2010, there was approximately 179,000 adults in Kansas diagnosed with diabetes,"

The older the population, the higher the risk of diabetes. Though age may not be a factor that students feel they have to worry about now, the CDC has stated that anyone from the ages of 18-76 can develop type 2 diabetes if they do not actively take care

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BASEBALL

Wildcat lineup bests Cornhuskers 10-6

BY SPENCER LOW
THE COLLEGIAN

After scoring just four runs in the final two games of their series against Kansas last weekend, K-State's offense looked like it needed some work, and a three-run outing on Tuesday was less than a resounding rebound. But with their 10-6 victory over the Nebraska Cornhuskers (20-14, 4-2 Big 12) last night in Lincoln, Neb., the Wildcats (20-13, 2-4 Big 12) showed that they still pack plenty of punch in their lineup, especially the upperclassmen.

The first three hitters in K-State's lineup, senior center fielder Ross Kivett, senior first baseman Shane Conlon and junior shortstop Austin Fisher were all unanimous selections to last season's First Team All-Big 12 squad, and are about as good as a 1-2-3 punch as they come in college baseball. But they struggled recently, combining for just eight for 47 at-bats in the last four games.

However, good hitters find a way to get back on the horse, and those three certainly turned things around against Nebraska. In the win, Kivett, Conlon and Fisher went a cumulative six for 12, drew four walks, scored four runs, drove

in seven runs and struck out just once.

Kivett tied with sophomore second baseman Lance Miles for a game-high three hits, and Kivett had the team's lone extra-base hit, a double to lead off the game.

As is common in midweek games, K-State used plenty of pitchers in the game, needing five to pull out the win.

Head coach Brad Hill started sophomore Landon Busch on the mound, and he allowed four runs – three earned – off four hits over three innings, with two strikeouts and no walks issued. Freshman Jake Fromson got the win, the first of his career, by tossing three innings with one run allowed off four hits, walking none and striking out one.

Two perfect innings by freshman Jordan Floyd brought the team to the ninth inning, bringing in freshman Ethan Landon. The right-hander has been lights out for most of his freshman season, but he suffered a rough outing last night, allowing one run and loading the bases with two outs before junior Jake Whaley bailed him out by striking out the only batter he faced for the game's last out, sealing the win and earning his first save on the season.

Next up for K-State is a three game road series in Lubbock, Texas against Texas Tech as the Wildcats continue conference play.

EMILY DEHAZER | THE COLLEGIAN

K-State senior catcher **Blair DeBord** hugs sophomore pitcher **Jake Matthys** after defeating Wichita State 3-2 on Tuesday at Tointon Family Stadium.



Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame selects K-State basketball alum

BY JOHN ZETMEIR
THE COLLEGIAN

BASKETBALL Ten new basketball players will have their names inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as part of the 2014 class. Among that list is former K-State Wildcat Mitch Richmond. This will mark the fourth time that a former Wildcat has been inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

"I couldn't be more honored, excited and overjoyed to be a part of the Hall of Fame," Richmond wrote in his online blog. "Words cannot really express how I truly feel right now. I don't think it's really hit me quite yet, and it's hard to even tell you how I feel to tell you the truth."

Richmond played at K-State for two seasons in 1986-88 after transferring from junior college. During his two years, Richmond led the Wildcats to 45 wins, two NCAA tournaments and a trip to Elite Eight in 1988.

After a strong senior year at K-State, he continued his strong play into the NBA; he was named 1989 NBA Rookie of the Year. Richmond was selected fifth overall in the 1988 NBA draft by the Golden State Warriors where he excelled.

Scoring is something that just came naturally to Richmond. He is one of just 10 players to average 21 points or more in his first 10 seasons in the NBA. During his 14-year career, Richmond appeared in six NBA All-Star games.

Richmond represented the U.S. twice in the summer Olympics, including being selected as part of the famous gold-winning "Dream Team" in 1996.

"This is truly the ultimate basketball accomplishment, and I will represent the Hall of Fame, and continue to respect the game, as best as I can," Richmond wrote in the blog post. "I am honored and so happy to be a part of this wonderful organization."

The 2014 class will be inducted on Friday, Aug. 8 at the Springfield Symphony Hall in Springfield, Mass.

Wildcats make program history with second-straight weekly award

BY TIMOTHY EVERSON
THE COLLEGIAN

ROWING After a solid showing at the San Diego Crew Classic, the K-State Women's Rowing 1st Varsity 8 boat walked away with its second-straight weekly award and the third-straight overall for this season.

After a close 17-6 win in the Sunflower Showdown earned the boat Conference USA Boat of the Week honors, the 1V8

boat was again honored this week in being named Co-Big 12 Boat of the week along with Texas' 1st Varsity 4.

It is K-State's second Big 12 honor this season as the 2nd Varsity 8 boat garnered the honor after a strong showing at the Longhorn Invitational in March.

K-State's three weekly awards this season is more than in the combined preceding 17 seasons award collection. The Wildcats have the week off but head to Oak Ridge, Tenn. for the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship Regatta April 18-19.

HEDWIG | New musical about coming to terms with one's identity

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was approached to do the show, he was excited. Trowbridge plays Schlatko, the drummer.

Although the rehearsals have been going on since early January, the band had only really begun rehearsing two to three weeks ago.

"I had played with (Sims) and (Tuttle) before and had already established that camaraderie and sync with them," Trowbridge said. "But then, it was finding that band mentality with the others, instead of just a bunch of musicians on a stage playing together. They are all excellent musicians and know their craft. We have managed to avoid clashes – dodged that bullet."

Nick Reiter, Manhattan resident, plays the band's guitarist Krzysztof. He had never played with many of the other performers, but he was asked and said yes.

Stephen Keith, Manhattan resident, plays Jacek the bass player. Keith said it was challenging in the transition from an

actual rock band in real life to a rock band in a production. This is the first time Keith has been in a production.

"It has been an absolutely outstanding time," Keith said. "It's been a total throwback. It has been kind of nostalgic for me, since I remember the '80s and was in a hair metal band before this."

Brannah-Green said people should come out to see the production to support the LGBT community, support the local artists, or to laugh and see a rock 'n' roll show.

"Hedwig and the Angry Inch" will be performed at Aggie Central Station, 1115 Moro St., April 10-12 and April 17-19 at 7:30 p.m.. Tickets range from \$8-\$15 and can be bought online at hedwigmkh.brownpapertickets.com.

"It has been an absolute privilege to be a part of this show," Keith said. "It is incredibly upsetting to me to see the climate surrounding the LGBT community. It has been fun to be a part of what I consider a civil rights movement by being a part of this production."

Royals have solid opening homestand that could be one very encouraging sign



AUSTIN EARL
THE COLLEGIAN

BASEBALL The Kansas City Royals completed their first homestand of the season on Wednesday, beating the Tampa Bay Rays 7-3. The Royals are 4-2 at home, bringing them to 4-4 overall so far this season. While the run production was not what some fans wanted, the Royals' end result was enough to consider the past two series successful.

The formula for making the playoffs in baseball is simple – play well above .500 at home and stay afloat on the road. The Royals home record is 4-2, but the true story is that they have won both of their series. Series wins are very important. While everyone loves a sweep, just taking two of three every series puts a team at the top of the league.

The Royals dropped a

disappointing game on Tuesday, but came out and dominated on Wednesday. The ability to put tough losses behind them is something that the Royals must get used to. Close losses have plagued the team in past years, with one loss normally turning into three or four straight. The Royals victory on Wednesday – albeit a small sample – could be a very encouraging sign.

The Royals will leave the friendly confines of the Kaufman Stadium and play at Target Field in Minneapolis, Minn. They are currently 0-2 on the road, but played against two former Cy Young Award winning pitchers. The good news in Kansas City is that there are only a few pitchers of that caliber. There is no reason that the offense will continue to sputter as they did in Detroit.

There are a lot of reasons that the offense will be better as the season progresses. Designated hitter Billy Butler will start hitting well once again. He has started the season in a slump, with an OPS (on-base plus slugging percentage) of just .517. To put that in perspective, his lowest ever season OPS was .724 in 2008. So, he has proven to be a better hitter than what he has shown thus far.

Even the Royals much maligned third baseman Mike Moustakas will be better than it has been so far – partly because it's hard to get much worse. Moustakas' .038 batting average is dreadful to say the least. But it will get better, because it's near impossible to stay that bad.

There is significant reason to believe that the Royals' offense will get better as the season progresses. But it's almost certain that the pitching rotation will fall off at least a little bit. In warmer weather, fly balls travel further. That obviously leads to more home runs. Also, the pitchers have been playing at elite levels in their starts. The law of averages will kick in eventually for them.

The 4-4 Royals haven't had a big enough sample size yet to make any great judgments on their season. Eight games is just under five percent of an MLB season. There is a lot of time left for the Royals to improve – or get worse. Based on their players' previous seasons, it's very possible that the Royals could become a very good baseball team by September.

Austin Earl is a freshman in pre-journalism. Please send comments to sports@kstate-collegian.com.

BREEZY | Longboard Club's second annual event to bring in out-of-state skaters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

much earlier this year, the Longboarding Club is adding some new elements to the event, including expanding its duration to last for two days, offering free camping on Saturday night to all skaters and interested onlookers and incorporating new and exciting competitions that will challenge the competitors and excite the crowd.

"It's going to be a circus of events," Moore said. "We are doing the downhill race, the slide jam, best trick, longest manual, biggest standee and biggest topside."

Easily the event's most challenging and well-known competition, the downhill race, will take place on a stretch of road at Tuttle Creek Cove Park that spans about three-quarters of a mile. Emphasis will be placed on speed.

A variety of prizes will be handed out to the winners for each of the competitions, which will be another of this year's improvements. Multiple sponsors will be sending the Longboarding Club free

gear – including new wheels, boards and trucks – to go away at the event. Big Poppy Bicycle Company will serve as a local sponsor, while several larger companies, including Rayne Longboards, Northern Pine Longboards, Landyachtz Skateboards and Red Bull, will also sponsor.

"Events are often measured by who is sponsoring," said Jeb Stewart, sophomore in biology and anthropology, and the treasurer of the Longboarding Club. "If you have a lot of tiny, local sponsors, then you will get a large local turnout in terms of riders. But, if you have got bigger companies like Rayne, Comet, and Metro

slapped on your banners, then it comes off as more legitimate and people from all over are more likely to come to your event."

This idea of blending local and larger sponsors falls in line with exactly what the Longboarding Club is trying to accomplish by hosting Breezy Bomb 2014.

"Our goal was to start longboarding in this community and let everyone have as much fun as they could with

it," Moore said. "We have events now. We are pulling skaters from other states into Manhattan for events. That hasn't happened before. It's growing exponentially every day."

The blending of the growing longboarding communities in Manhattan and the Midwest is a goal both Snavely and Moore said they envisioned when they began serving as presidents of the Longboarding Club.

"The community is building and that's what we will always continue to do," Snavely said. "We are here to build a community and are doing it in a way that we have come to love. It's becoming long term."

They said their hope is that Breezy Bomb will continue being a major catalyst for this budding community. The turnout on Saturday should be a good indication of things to come for longboarding in Manhattan, Moore said.

"(Breezy Bomb) has become an opportunity that we cannot pass up," Moore said. "I'm going to wake up (on Saturday) and it is going to be like Christmas morning."

CLASSIFIEDS

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014

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Announcements

THE EASTER Bunny, presented by the K-State Federal Credit Union, arrived to Manhattan Town Center Friday April 11 at 10:00 am. Kids of all ages can visit the magical spring garden in Center Court and have their pictures taken with the Easter Bunny through April 19. The schedule for Bunny photos is as follows: Monday-Saturday 10 am-8 pm. Sunday 12-6 pm.

040

Meetings/Events

THE AFRICAN Student Union of Kansas State University presents the African Cultural Evening 2014 April 19th at the Manhattan City Hall. This event is free. Come enjoy free African food, dance, drama and other activities!

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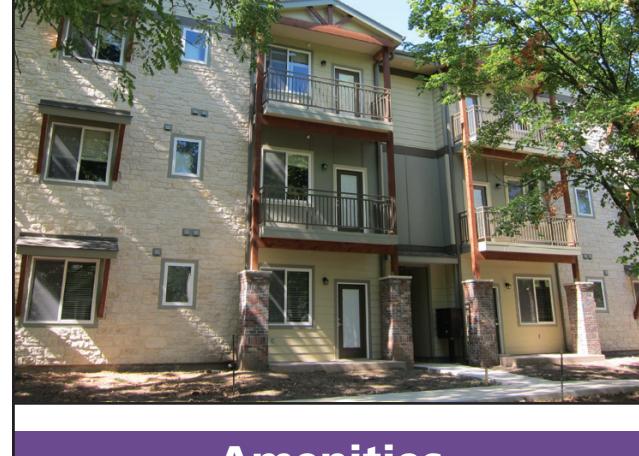
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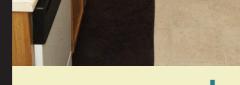
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